Agoraphobia : A fear of going out to public places.

Amnesia: A significant memory loss that is too extensive to be due to normal forgetting. See also Anterograde amnesia, Retrograde amnesia.

Anorexia nervosa: Eating disorder characterized by intense fear of gaining weight, disturbed body image, refusal to maintain normal weight, and dangerous measures to lose weight.

Anterograde amnesia: Loss of memories for events that occur after a head injury.

Antisocial personality disorder: A type of personality disorder marked by impulsive, callous, manipulative, aggressive, and irresponsible behavior that reflects a failure to accept social norms.

Anxiety disorders: A class of disorders marked by feelings of excessive apprehension and anxiety.

Autonomic nervous system (ANS): The system of nerves that connect to the heart, blood vessels, smooth muscles, and glands.

Availability heuristic: Basing the estimated probability of an event on the ease with which relevant instances come to mind.

Behavior: Any overt (observable) response or activity by an organism.

Bipolar disorder (formerly known as manicdepressive disorder): Mood disorder marked by the experience of both depressed and manic periods.

Bulimia nervosa: Eating disorder characterized by habitually engaging in out-of-control overeating followed by unhealthy compensatory efforts, such as self-induced vomiting, fasting, abuse of laxatives and diuretics, and excessive exercise.

Catastrophic thinking: Unrealistically pessimistic appraisals of stress that exaggerate the magnitude of one's problems.

Catatonic schizophrenia: A type of schizophrenia marked by striking motor disturbances, ranging from muscular rigidity to random motor activity.

Commitment: An intent to maintain a relationship in spite of the difficulties and costs that may arise.

Comorbidity: The coexistence of two or more disorders.

Concordance rate: The percentage of twin pairs or other pairs of relatives that exhibit the same disorder.

Conditioned response (CR): A learned reaction to a conditioned stimulus that occurs because of previous conditioning.

Conditioned stimulus (CS): A previously neutral stimulus that has, through conditioning, acquired the capacity to evoke a conditioned response.

Conjunction fallacy: An error that occurs when people estimate that the odds of two uncertain events happening together are greater than the odds of either event happening alone.

Conversion disorder: A somatoform disorder characterized by a significant loss of physical function (with no apparent organic basis), usually in a single organ system.

Culture-bound disorders: Abnormal syndromes found only in a few cultural groups.

Cyclothymic disorder: Exhibiting chronic but relatively mild symptoms of bipolar disturbance.

Delusions: False beliefs that are maintained even though they are clearly out of touch with reality.

Diagnosis: Distinguishing one illness from another.

Disorganized schizophrenia: A type of schizophrenia in which particularly severe deterioration of adaptive behavior is seen.

Dissociative amnesia: A sudden loss of memory for important personal information that is too extensive to be due to normal forgetting.

Dissociative disorders: A class of disorders in which people lose contact with portions of their consciousness or memory, resulting in disruptions in their sense of identity.

Dissociative fugue: A disorder in which people lose their memory for their entire lives along with their sense of personal identity.

Dissociative identity disorder (DID): A type of dissociative disorder characterized by the coexistence in one person of two or more largely complete, and usually very different, personalities. Also called multiple-personality disorder.

Dysthymic disorder: A chronic depression that is insufficient in severity to merit diagnosis of a major depressive episode.

Eating disorders: Severe disturbances in eating behavior characterized by preoccupation with weight concerns and unhealthy efforts to control weight.

Epidemiology: The study of the distribution of mental or physical disorders in a population.

Etiology: The apparent causation and developmental history of an illness.

Generalized anxiety disorder : A psychological disorder marked by a chronic, high level of anxiety that is not tied to any specific threat.

Genetic mapping: The process of determining the location and chemical sequence of specific genes on specific chromosomes.

Hallucinations: Sensory perceptions that occur in the absence of a real, external stimulus, or gross distortions of perceptual input.

Hindsight bias: The tendency to mold one's interpretation of the past to fit how events actually turned out.

Hypochondriasis: A somatoform disorder characterized by excessive preoccupation with health concerns and incessant worry about developing physical illnesses.

Insanity: A legal status indicating that a person cannot be held responsible for his or her actions because of mental illness.

Involuntary commitment: A civil proceeding in which people are hospitalized in psychiatric facilities against their will.

Learned helplessness: Passive behavior produced by exposure to unavoidable aversive events.

Major depressive disorder: Mood disorder characterized by persistent feelings of sadness and despair and a loss of interest in previous sources of pleasure.

Medical model: The view that it is useful to think of abnormal behavior as a disease.

Mood disorders: A class of disorders marked by emotional disturbances of varied kinds that may spill over to disrupt physical, perceptual, social, and thought processes.

Multiple-personality disorder: A type of dissociative disorder characterized by the coexistence in one person of two or more largely complete, and usually very different, personalities. Also called multiple-personality disorder.

Negative reinforcement: The strengthening of a response because it is followed by the removal of an aversive (unpleasant) stimulus.

Negative symptoms: Schizophrenic symptoms that involve behavioral deficits, such as flattened emotions, social withdrawal, apathy, impaired attention, and poverty of speech.

Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD): A type of anxiety disorder marked by persistent, uncontrollable intrusions of unwanted thoughts (obsessions) and urges to engage in senseless rituals (compulsions).

Panic disorder: A type of anxiety disorder characterized by recurrent attacks of overwhelming anxiety that usually occur suddenly and unexpectedly.

Paranoid schizophrenia: A type of schizophrenia that is dominated by delusions of persecution along with delusions of grandeur.

Personality disorders: A class of psychological disorders marked by extreme, inflexible personality traits that cause subjective distress or impaired social and occupational functioning.

Phobias: Irrational fears of specific objects or situations.

Phobic disorder: A type of anxiety disorder marked by a persistent and irrational fear of an object or situation that presents no realistic danger.

Positive symptoms: Schizophrenic symptoms that involve behavioral excesses or peculiarities, such as hallucinations, delusions, bizarre behavior, and wild flights of ideas.

Preparedness: A species-specific predisposition to be conditioned in certain ways and not others.

Prevalence: The percentage of a population that exhibits a disorder during a specified time period.

Prognosis: A forecast about the probable course of an illness.

Psychosomatic diseases: Physical ailments with a genuine organic basis that are caused in part by psychological factors, especially emotional distress.

Representativeness heuristic: Basing the estimated probability of an event on how similar it is to the typical prototype of that event.

Retrograde amnesia: Loss of memories for events that occurred prior to a head injury.

Schizophrenic disorders: A class of psychological disorders marked by disturbances in thought that spill over to affect perceptual, social, and emotional processes.

Somatization disorder: A type of somatoform disorder marked by a history of diverse physical complaints that appear to be psychological in origin.

Somatoform disorders: A class of psychological disorders involving physical ailments with no authentic organic basis that are due to psychological factors.

Stress: Any circumstances that threaten or are perceived to threaten one's well-being and that thereby tax one's coping abilities.

Unconditioned response (UCR): An unlearned reaction to an unconditioned stimulus that occurs without previous conditioning.

Unconditioned stimulus (UCS): A stimulus that evokes an unconditioned response without previous conditioning.

Undifferentiated schizophrenia: A type of schizophrenia marked by idiosyncratic mixtures of schizophrenic symptoms.